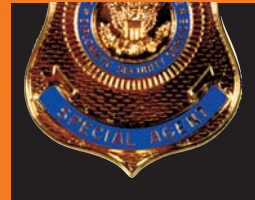


UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
BUREAU OF DIPLOMATIC SECURITY

DIPLOMATIC SECURITY INVESTIGATES



Public Affairs
Bureau of Diplomatic Security
U.S. Department of State
Washington, DC 20522-2008
571-345-2502
www.diplomaticsecurity.state.gov

A GUIDE FOR
U.S. LAW ENFORCEMENT

A GLOBAL FORCE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Publication 11187
Bureau of Diplomatic Security

Revised July 2005



DIPLOMATIC SECURITY INVESTIGATES

A Guide for U.S. Law Enforcement

The Bureau of Diplomatic Security is the security and law enforcement arm of the U.S. Department of State. As a federal law enforcement agency, Diplomatic Security is unique. **Special agents are posted in 23 cities in the United States and 159 foreign nations — by far the most geographically widespread of any agency with federal law enforcement responsibilities.**

A GLOBAL FORCE



Through its unique overseas presence, Diplomatic Security has strong relationships with foreign and international law enforcement organizations. These relationships allow Diplomatic Security to assist U.S. law enforcement agencies in joint investigations. Special agents are available to work with federal, state, and local government law enforcement officials to fight certain transnational crimes that, regardless of where they are committed, violate the laws of the United States.

DS Investigates Passport and Visa Fraud

Travel document fraud represents a serious and growing threat to the national security of the United States.

Criminals who obtain a fraudulent travel document often use it to commit other crimes, including terrorism, financial fraud, narcotics trafficking, alien smuggling, and identity theft. Fugitives often seek to change their identities and travel internationally as part of their criminal activities.

Diplomatic Security special agents have conducted international document fraud investigations for more than 80 years and have the authority to make arrests for passport and visa fraud—both federal felonies—and other criminal acts committed in conjunction with travel document fraud. These investigations are critical to America’s homeland security.

A U.S. passport is the most valuable identity document in the world as it establishes U.S. citizenship and allows its bearer unlimited access to virtually every country in the world. Diplomatic Security investigates the fraudulent issuance, acquisition, and use of U.S. passports. Working with other federal government agencies and state and local law enforcement on passport fraud investigations, special agents arrest more than 600 individuals each year.

Countless people attempt to obtain U.S. visas illegally each year. Special agents investi-

gate and coordinate international visa fraud cases, including the fraudulent issuance, procurement, counterfeiting, and forgery of U.S. visas. Diplomatic Security works with the State Department’s Bureau of Consular Affairs on

cases involving allegations of corruption by American and locally employed staff of U.S. embassies, fraudulent document vendors, bribery, alien smuggling, and trafficking U.S. visas. Diplomatic Security has investigated thousands of individuals who have attempted to obtain fraudulent visas through criminal organizations or bribery.

DS Investigates Terrorism and Espionage

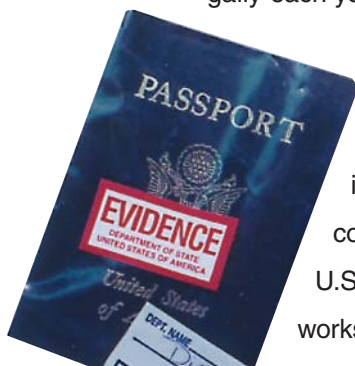
Special agents investigate terrorist incidents and threats made against the Secretary of State, other State



U.S. Embassy bombing, Nairobi, Kenya, 1998

Department employees and facilities, U.S. Government employees abroad, foreign embassies and missions in the United States, and the dignitaries Diplomatic Security protects. Each year, special agents monitor more than 1,200 threat-related incidents. Agents share information with other federal and local agencies to ensure that every threat is thoroughly investigated and appropriate countermeasures taken.

Diplomatic Security conducts counterintelligence inquiries and aggressive counterespionage investigations with other U.S. Government agencies.



A robust counterintelligence program is designed to deter, detect, and neutralize the efforts of foreign intelligence services targeting Department of State personnel, facilities, and diplomatic missions worldwide. At our overseas embassies, Diplomatic Security manages counterintelligence programs for all U.S. Government agencies under the authority of the U.S. ambassador.

When classified materials are compromised at the State Department, Diplomatic Security initiates the investigation. Working with other government investigators and

ensure that granting them access to classified information is in the best interests of our national security. Periodic background investigations are conducted on incumbent employees every 5 years. Diplomatic Security conducts about 20,000 personnel background investigations each year.

Special agents conduct investigations into alleged misconduct by employees and investigate unauthorized disclosure and compromise of classified or sensitive information. Allegations may include



counterintelligence agencies, special agents conduct damage assessments to determine the impact on national security. Espionage cases are referred to the U.S. Department of Justice for joint investigation and prosecution.

DS Investigates Personnel Background and Employee Misconduct

All personnel hired by the Department of State, including ambassadors and other appointees, are investigated to determine their suitability for employment and to

abuse of authority and privileges, discharge of a firearm, workplace violence, substance abuse, financial misconduct, child abuse, and domestic violence. These investigations could lead to reprimand, suspension, termination, or criminal charges.

DS Investigates Transnational Crimes

Diplomatic Security plays a leading role in assisting local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies with thousands of investigations overseas each year. Assigned to U.S. embassies around the world,

special agents (also known as regional security officers) work with host country police to pursue investigative leads on U.S. fugitives wanted for crimes such as homicide, pedophilia, narcotics trafficking, parental kidnapping, and financial fraud.



As a result of our close working relationship with foreign police, Diplomatic Security has successfully located U.S. fugitives all over the world. This cooperative effort leads to the arrest and return of dozens of fugitives from American justice.

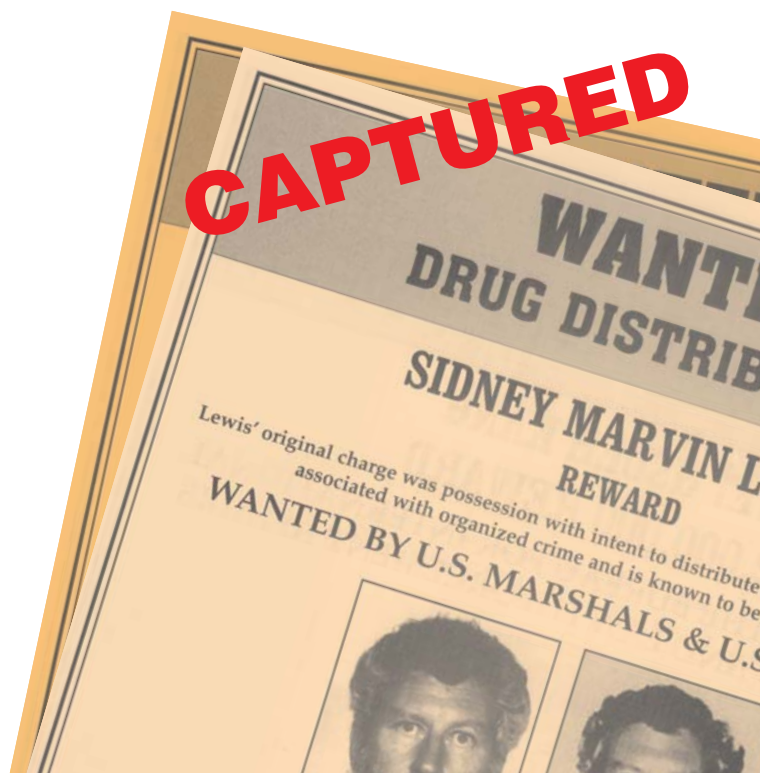
With the passage of the Protect Act in 2003, which makes it a crime for U.S. citizens to sexually exploit or abuse children in a foreign country, Diplomatic Security's investigative assistance is in greater

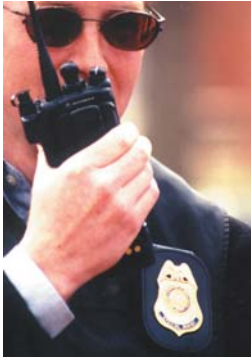
demand as U.S. law enforcement seeks to apprehend U.S. pedophiles who prey on children around the globe.

DS Investigates With You

Diplomatic Security special agents are some of the most versatile and highly skilled law enforcement officers in the world. International investigations can be complex. Special agents stand ready to work with you. Our investigative expertise may be of particular assistance in the following circumstances:

- ⦿ A suspect on a local warrant may have fled the United States with an assumed identity,
- ⦿ An individual is arrested with documents, especially passports, in multiple identities, or
- ⦿ A local investigation has developed significant information on a suspect's criminal activity that does not quite provide probable cause, but it is believed that the suspect is using or has procured a false identity for international travel.





DS Case File: Fraud Tips Murder

An American applied for four U.S. passports over a 5-year period, each time fraudulently assuming the identity of a business associate. Through its investigation, Diplomatic Security determined that the individual

committing passport fraud also was the subject of a California homicide investigation. A Diplomatic Security special agent assigned to the U.S. Embassy in the Philippines helped locate the suspect, assisted local police with his arrest, and arranged for his deportation. While the suspect was incarcerated and awaiting deportation to the United States, California prosecutors continued their investigation and built a strong case against him. He is now formally charged with the murder of his wife.

DS Case File: Most Wanted Captured

The U.S. Marshals Service contacted Diplomatic Security at the U.S. Embassy in Israel to assist with the location and apprehension of a U.S. Marshals' Top 15 Most Wanted Fugitive. The subject was wanted on drug charges, multiple counts of sexual assault against minors, and for questioning in at least one homicide. Diplomatic Security helped secure a provisional arrest warrant, conducted surveillance, and devised an arrest plan. After local police arrested the suspect, Diplomatic Security worked with U.S. and Israeli officials to

extradite him to the United States.



DS Case File: Operation Eagle Strike

In Operation Eagle Strike, Diplomatic Security special agents investigated the illegal issuance of U.S. visas to more than 70 unqualified recipients at the U.S. Embassy in Doha, Qatar. Possible terrorist connections of some of the known visa recipients prompted a nationwide man-



hunt by Diplomatic Security, U.S. Customs and Immigration Enforcement, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, resulting in the arrest of 49 individuals in the United States and overseas. It was determined that the remaining 21 recipients never entered the United States nor used their visas.



DS Case File: 48 Hours

Diplomatic Security special agents assigned to the U.S. Embassy in Guatemala located a repeat child sexual offender and returned him to Arlington, Virginia, to

face justice. Within hours of contacting Arlington County officials to offer assistance, special agents tracked the fugitive, who had admitted to abusing more than 300 victims, to an impoverished neighborhood and coordinated an arrest plan with Guatemalan officials. With the fugitive in custody, Diplomatic Security coordinated with the U.S. Marshals Service, Arlington County Police Department, and Guatemalan immigration authorities to expel the fugitive from Guatemala. This high-profile fugitive was located, arrested, and returned to the United States in fewer than 48 hours.

Legal Authorities

The Omnibus Diplomatic Security and Antiterrorism Act of 1986 established the Diplomatic Security Service.

The State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956, Section 37 (22 U.S.C. Section 2709) authorizes Diplomatic Security special agents to conduct criminal investigations concerning illegal passport or visa issuance or use. The statute also authorizes special agents to provide protection and perform protective functions related to the security and safety of heads of a foreign state, official representatives of a foreign government, and other distinguished visitors to the United States, while in the United States, and of the Secretary of State, Deputy Secretary of State, and official representatives of the U.S. Government, in the United States or abroad. In carrying out these duties, special agents may carry firearms, execute federal arrest and search warrants, and serve summonses and subpoenas. In 2002, Congress expanded the arrest authority of special agents to include federal offenses committed in their presence or for any federal felony.



Contact Us

To request investigative assistance, contact the Diplomatic Security Command Center in Washington, DC, or one of the field offices located throughout the United States.

Diplomatic Security Command Center 1-866-217-2089
(Staffed 24 hours daily)

Diplomatic Security Offices in the United States

Atlanta, GA	(404) 331-3521
Boston, MA	(617) 565-8200
Bridgeport, CT	(203) 579-5701
Chicago, IL	(312) 353-6163
Dallas, TX	(214) 767-0700
Denver, CO	(303) 236-2781
Greensboro, NC	(336) 547-4292
Honolulu, HI	(808) 541-2854
Houston, TX	(713) 272-2865
Los Angeles, CA	(213) 894-3290
Miami, FL	(305) 536-5781
New Orleans, LA	(504) 589-2010
New York, NY	(201) 944-3787
Philadelphia, PA	(215) 861-3370
Phoenix, AZ	(602) 364-7842
St. Louis, MO	(314) 539-2721
San Diego, CA	(619) 557-6194
San Francisco, CA	(415) 705-1176
San Juan, PR	(787) 766-5704
Seattle, WA	(206) 220-7721
Washington, DC	(571) 226-9300

Visit us online at: www.diplomaticsecurity.state.gov

A GLOBAL FORCE

Photo Credits

- Page 3: AP/Wide World Photos
- Page 7: poster, United States Marshals Service
- Page 9: Getty Images
- All other photos, U.S. Department of State